

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1.     A nail polish applicator comprising:  
2                     a propellant container extending along a longitudinal axis and  
3     containing a nail polish under pressure;  
4                     a nozzle coupled to the container and having an outlet; and  
5                     an actuator configured to selectively dispense the nail polish  
6     through the nozzle, wherein the nozzle is configured to dispense the nail  
7     polish along a dispensing axis substantially parallel or coextensive with  
8     the longitudinal axis of container.
- 1           2.     The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator includes a  
2     trigger movable in a direction towards the longitudinal axis of the  
3     container.
- 1           3.     The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator includes a  
2     trigger proximate the nozzle.
- 1           4.     The applicator of claim 1, wherein the applicator includes a  
2     housing at least partially about the container, wherein the housing  
3     extends along the longitudinal axis.
- 1           5.     The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing includes a  
2     plurality of sections fastened together about the container.
- 1           6.     The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing supports the  
2     actuator.
- 1           7.     The applicator of claim 4, wherein the actuator includes a  
2     trigger pivotally coupled to the housing.
- 1           8.     The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing has a first  
2     outer exterior surface and wherein the actuator includes a trigger having a

3   depression surface substantially flush with the outer surface of the  
4   housing.

1           9.    The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing has a  
2   longitudinal length greater than the container and wherein the housing  
3   abuts an axial end of the container opposite the nozzle.

1           10.   The applicator of claim 4, wherein the housing has a frusto-  
2   conical nose proximate the nozzle.

1           11.   The applicator of claim 1 including a cap configured to  
2   removably cover the nozzle.

1           12.   The applicator of claim 1 wherein the actuator includes a  
2   trigger and wherein the applicator further include a cap configured to  
3   removably cover the trigger.

1           13.   The applicator of claim 12, wherein the cap removably  
2   covers the nozzle.

1           14.   The applicator of claim 4, wherein the nozzle has a  
2   dispensing opening and wherein the housing tapers toward the opening.

1           15.   The applicator of claim 1, wherein the container has an outer  
2   surface configured to be manipulated in a manner similar to that of a pen  
3   between a thumb, a middle finger, and an index finger.

1           16.   The applicator of claim 1, wherein the container has a  
2   maximum outer diameter of 1.0 inch proximate the actuator.

1           17.   The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator is disposed at  
2   least partially between the container and the nozzle.

18. The applicator of claim 1, wherein the actuator is no greater than 1.5 inches from the outlet in a direction along the dispensing axis.